tickets without any difficulty on production of requisite certificate in proper form.

The following facilities have been extended from time to time for the physically handicapped persons:—

(i) At major Passenger Reservation System (PRS) locations, physically handicapped persons are dealt with on a separate counter.

(ii) A reservation quota of two sleeper class berths have been earmarked in all trains running on non-suburban sections for handicapped persons performing their journey on handicapped concessional ticket. The persons accompanying the handicapped person as escort is also alloted the berth out of this quota.

(iii) Instructions have also been issued that in the tickets issued through Computerised Passenger Reservation System, to extent feasible, one lower berth should be allotted to the handicapped person and the person accompanying the handicapped person as escort should be allotted middle/upper berths near the handicapped person subject to avilability of accommodation.

(iv) After departure of the train, if there are vacant lower berths available in the train, and if any physically handicapped person booked on the authority of handicapped concessional ticket, who has been allottted upper/middle berth, approaches for allotment of vacant lower berths, the Conductor/TrainTicket Examiner (TTE) has been authorised to allot the vacant lower berth to them making necessary entries in the chart.

(v) In suburban trains, separate accommodation for handicapped persons has been earmarked.

Pre-training facilities to Railway OBC employees

†744. SHRI D.P. YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether departmental pre-training facilities are being provided to Railway employees of other backward classes for group 'B' examinations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no reservation for OBC candidates in promotion to Group 'B' posts. Reservation is provided for SC and ST candidates only. Pre-promotional mandatory coaching is provided only for SC and ST candidates.

Pending Railway Projects in A.P.

745. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount required to complete the projects that are pending in Andhra Pradesh, till March, 2001;

(b) the steps taken to pool resources so as to complete the projects within a fixed time-frame; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) The total amount required to complete the projects that are pending for want of required clearances in Andhra Pradesh is Rs. 343.5 crores as on 01.04.2001.

The amount required for completing ongoing Railway projects in Andhra Pradesh including those pending for clearances is Rs. 3289 crores as on 01.04.2001.

(b) These projects will be executed out of the budgetary support as well as internal generation of revenue by the Railways and will be progressed as per availability of resources.

(c) Does not arise.

Installation of Anti-Collision Device

746. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to stale:

(a) whether the Anti-Collision Device developed by the Research Development and Scientific Organisation, has passed the trail tests;